

# the Coop

*the official newsletter of your community grocery*

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE DIXON COOPERATIVE MARKET

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## CELEBRATE THE CO-OP'S 5TH ANNIVERSARY

*with dancing in the aisles!*

On Saturday, June 26th ~~Sunday, June 27th~~, the Co-op will celebrate its fifth year of operation. Back in May 2005, the store opened its doors with the help of several hard-working and determined community members and a grant from the USDA. Five years later, the Co-op is going strong thanks to its loyal members, incredible personnel and wonderful volunteers.

The celebration will feature food and entertainment. Preacher will provide BBQ brisket for \$6.00. There will be hot dogs for \$1.00 plus a veggie choice along with chips, coleslaw and drinks. A basket of food products will be raffled off. Come and join in the fun! The festivities will run from 2 to 5 PM. A membership table will be available for people who would like to learn more about becoming a member of the Co-op.



*Music!*

*Specials  
Galore!*

*Raffles!*

*Wheel-O-Discounts!*

*Food & Drinks!*

## Scott's Volunteer Plea

Summer is here, as you can probably tell, and it's time again to volunteer at the Co-op! The simple fact is that without our member-owner volunteers, the Co-op could not operate. Plain and simple. Those with co-op experience have said that a small store like ours cannot operate more than a year before volunteering begins to drop off. We've beaten the odds and seem to be going strong, yet it all hangs on whether we have continued volunteer support in all the areas that we need: cashiers, stockers, delivery unloaders, etc.

If you have never volunteered at the Co-op, but are interested, here are a few things to think about. There is a job for everybody who wants to help out, no matter what the ability. If you are good with computers and have a friendly face, cashiering may be a good fit for you. If you're on the shy side but have an eye for details, you may prefer to stay in the background and do some stocking and organizing. Doing one of these or any of the other odd jobs will give you a great sense of satisfaction that you are helping your community and participating in the success of YOUR store. The Co-op is here for you when you are here for the Co-op. And our friendly Volunteer Coordinator, Nancy Levit, and Volunteer Manager, Melody Martinez, are here for you too, making you labor seem like leisure.

But satisfaction is not all you get. If you work just one 4-hour shift a week, you are entitled to 10% off purchases for a whole week. That's money in your pocket and food on your shelves. And did I mention the sense of satisfaction?

## Ch Ch Ch Changes

As the saying goes, "Change is constant." Nothing could be more true at the Co-op!

New products arrive all the time. Distributors change their routes. Some products move out to give others a chance.

Employees also change. We want to thank Helen Lujan who has done a phenomenal job cleaning the nooks, crannies and multitude of surfaces at the Co-op. We wish her well in her retirement! Brandy Santos is now taking on the janitorial needs. Welcome Brandy!

A big thank you also to Henry Knutsen for the improvements he has made in our stocking system. His previous experience in retail businesses has increased our awareness of how to stay on top of this endless, demanding job. Rene Disbrow has replaced him and will bring her artistic eye and marketing background to bear on the look of our shelves.

As promised at the Annual

Meeting in January, the Board is taking an in-depth look at all the systems and finances of the market. Henry Knutsen has been hired as a temporary Business Analyst to assist the Board of Directors in charting a financially sustainable course for the Co-op. We expect his years of experience in the Co-op grocery business to move us to new levels of understanding. We are looking forward to this assistance.

We owe a huge debt of appreciation to Melody and Nelson for meeting the challenges that both have taken on. Melody has stepped up to being a full manager with responsibility for customer service, supervising all employees and volunteers, handling deliveries, monitoring the store flow, special events, marketing and a whole list of other activities. Nelson is handling the bulk of ordering and inventory management plus many other day-to-day activities of the market. We thank them for their tireless efforts.

## Membership Drive

by Gaywynn Cooper

During the month of June there are some great one-time special incentives to become a member of the Dixon Co-op Market. Co-op membership means you are joining with other members of the community in being an owner of the Co-op. The dollars generated from memberships are used to cover deficits when they occur and for special purchases outside ordinary operating expenses. It is a way to insure that the Co-op can continue to serve the community.

**During June—**

- \*New members will receive \$5 in store Market 'BUX'.
- \*Renewing and returning members names will go in a drawing for prizes, such as a \$25 gift card.
- \*Life members will pay \$190, Save \$10!

Don't wait any longer, join in JUNE! Questions? Come to the membership booth at the Farmers' Market each Wednesday in June. Come talk to us.

**A NEW BENEFIT FOR ALL MEMBERS BEGINNING IN JUNE**

Starting in June when you renew your membership you will receive in the mail Personal Shopping Days. On these days of "your choice" you will receive 5% off your total purchase. Lifetime/Charter members will receive their coupons in June each year. Volunteers - you may use this discount in conjunction with your regular working discount. 1st Sunday Member Appreciation discounts will still continue. Anyone can shop the Co-op but why miss out on the savings?